ALEXANDRIA (AP) - Crotchety and controversial John K. Snyder, ousted as mayor when he was committed for psychiatric testing last February, got the job back Wednesday on a 4-0 vote of the Alexandria City Council.

Snyder, 63, said he nonetheless will sue quite a few people, including his wife, who has filed for a divorce, the coroner who committed him, the local newspaper, and the council for refusing to reinstate him even after psychiatric tests proved him sane.

“I got it (the job) back now,” Snyder said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. “They voted on it a few minutes ago. “I’ve got to straighten out some of the mess made by this council,” he said, adding that he had so much to do that he couldn’t talk more about things until a news conference Thursday morning.

Dr. Wesley R. Dyer, the Rapides Parish coroner, ordered Snyder committed to the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Shreveport on Feb. 3 after Police Chief Glenn Beard signed a complaint attesting to strange behavior by the mayor.

His critics said the mayor actually started doing peculiar things the previous summer, when he was arrested while trying to break into his girlfriend’s apartment after she was evicted for non-payment of rent.

About that same time, there wasn’t enough money in the treasury to open the city swimming pool, so Snyder — who raises catfish — had it filled with catfish and opened it as a public fishing hole. The pool had to be drained a few days later after most of the fish died from lack of oxygen.

In January, he started driving a police car with its emergency lights flashing, and police said he tried to arrest people outside the city limits for public intoxication. City officials said he also was found rummaging through garbage bins outside police headquarters, looking for beer bottles to prove officers had been drinking on duty.

Beard’s complaint also said Snyder had called a black councilman a chimpanzee, had a man arrested for playing “Dixie” over downtown loudspeakers and had complained that there were pimps in the police department.

Snyder, who was mayor from 1973 to 1977 before winning the job again in 1982, explained it all away by saying he was under intense pressure.

After his commitment, city councilmen ousted Snyder as mayor and named council President Marion Chaney as acting mayor.

Snyder was released from the hospital within a week, but had to get a court order for a hearing when councilmen refused to even discuss giving him his job back.

Amid his legal wrangling with the council, Snyder announced that he will not seek a third term as mayor in September and instead will run for the state Public Service Commission.

Wednesday’s action was the result of the council hearing, but only four of the seven council members voted. One councilman was on vacation, another was in the hospital, and Chaney abstained.

“I consulted with my attorney (about a lawsuit),” Snyder said. “It will be filed in the next few days against, principally, the people who caused this thing . . . the Town Talk (newspaper), the coroner, against my ex-wife Ann, several officials of the VA hospital in Pineville . . . the VA hospital in Shreveport.”

Snyder’s lawyer, Eugene Cicardo, said any legal action would, by necessity, have to be broad.

“It would be a civil rights-type action, charging deprivation of state office under color of law,” Cicardo said. “I haven’t had a chance to finish the research on it.”